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the Local Development Schemes and that the execution of the work has not yet commenced because of some technical difficulties raised by the Public Works Department there? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" I want notice to answer this question."

Alleged ill-treatment of Kisan Sabha members in the Negamam Police station.

* 1860 *Q.*—SRI C. KANDASAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations were received by the Government regarding the arrest, detention and beating of some members belonging to the Kisan Sabha in the Police lock-up on 2nd August 1954 in the Negamam Police station in Pollachi taluk; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir. The Government have not received any such representation. The District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, however, received a petition on the subject and he enquired into the allegations. According to his report, the allegations have not been proved."

Closure of the Islamia Tile Works, Kasargode.

* 1861 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Islamia Tile Works, Kasargode, South Kanara, was closed in June 1954 without giving any notice either to the workers or to the Government causing unemployment to more than 50 workers; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government propose to take against the management for this violation of the provisions of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The Islamia Tile Works Factory, Kasargode, was closed in June 1954 and the management intimated the closure of the factory to the Inspector of Factories, Mangalore."

" (*b*) The Secretary of the Tile Workers' Union, Kasargode, has been advised to ask the workers to put in claim petitions for lay-off wages."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is the duty of the management, under the Industrial Disputes Act, to simply inform the workers or to give due notice to the workers about the closure? Is the closure an illegal closure and, if so, what action have the Government taken to stop it? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" In the report of the Labour Officer, Kozhikode, who conducted an enquiry, it is said that year after year from July to October, due to the non-availability of clay, the workers used to go away for agricultural work. Therefore it is not considered to be an illegal closure."

Alleged irregular election of a member to the Malabar Pradesh Congress Committee.

* 1862 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Secretary of the Srikrishnapuram Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society has become the Secretary of the Mandal Congress Committee and got elected to the Malabar Pradesh Congress Committee; and

(*b*) if so, whether he has been exempted from the operation of the service rules?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Society has not adopted any service rules prohibiting its employees from taking part in politics. The question of exempting the Society from the service rules does not therefore arise."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Has not the Registrar issued a general circular to all societies that there should be no one on the staff who is an accredited member of any political party and if it is so, why is it necessary that that particular society should adopt any bye-law at all? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is no specific provision in the Co-operative Societies Act or the rules prohibiting the paid employees of co-operative societies from taking part in politics."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" Is it not a fact that the employees of Producers-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies are prohibited by rules from taking part in politics and is it because this particular society was given exemption from those rules that one of the employees had taken part in politics? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The General Body of this Society decided not to adopt this special bye-law. The question of starting supersession proceedings was therefore taken up by the Collector. But as the administrative control of the Society was being transferred to the Co-operative Department, supersession proceedings were dropped."